AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Original)   A recommended program notification method of notifying a user of a recommended program, comprising the steps of:

inputting a user' s instruction including a recommendation control instruction;

detecting notification timing with which a notification of a recommended program is performed, when the recommendation control instruction is not input; and

displaying a notification screen indicating the existence of a recommended program when the notification timing is detected.

Claim 2 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, wherein the notification timing detecting step detects timing with which a recommended program starts, as the notification timing.

Claim 3 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, wherein the notification timing detecting step detects timing with which selected stations are changed, as the notification timing.

Claim 4 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, where the notification timing detecting step detects timing with which a channel display starts, as the notification timing.

Claim 5 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 4, further comprising erasing the notification screen when the channel display is ended.

Claim 6 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 5, wherein the channel display starts and ends, depending on an input channel display control instruction.

Claim 7 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, further comprising displaying a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs

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when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 8 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, further comprising displaying a video of a recommended program when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 9 (Original)   The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, further comprising erasing the notification screen when a predetermined time has elapsed while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 10 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, further comprising erasing the notification screen when an instruction other than the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 11 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, further comprising changing an information amount of a recommended program included in the notification screen when the recommendation control instruction is input.

Claim 12 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 11, wherein as the information amount changing step, the following steps are included:

displaying a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is not being displayed;

erasing the notification screen and displaying the list screen when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed; and

erasing the list screen and displaying a video of a recommended program when the recommendation control instruction is input while the list screen is being displayed.

Claim 13 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 12, wherein the notification screen is an icon which is overlaid and displayed on a program video.

Claim 14 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 11, wherein as the information amount changing step, the following steps are included:

displaying a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is not being displayed;

erasing the notification screen and displaying a simple list screen having a less information amount than that of the list screen when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed;

erasing the simple list screen and displaying the list screen when the recommendation control instruction is input while the simple list screen is being displayed; and

erasing the list screen and displaying a video of a recommended program when the recommendation control instruction is input while the list screen is being displayed.

Claim 15 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 14, wherein the notification screen is an icon which is overlaid and displayed on a program video, and

the simple list screen is a window which is overlaid and displayed on a program video.

Claim 16 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 1, further comprising:

obtaining a recommendation reason for a program; and

including the obtained recommendation reason in the notification screen, wherein the obtained recommendation reason is in a form which can be recognized by a user.

Claim 17 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 16, wherein the recommendation reason is an element selected from the group consisting of frequent viewing of a program, appearance of a specific performer in a program, belonging of a program to a specific genre, and inclusion of a specific character string in a document accompanying a program.

Claim 18 (Original) The recommended program notification method according to claim 16, wherein the notification screen is an element selected from the group consisting of an icon overlaid and displayed on a program video, a window overlaid and displayed on a program video, and a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs.

Claim 19 (Original) A recommended program notification device of notifying a user of a recommended program, comprising:

displaying means of displaying a program video;

inputting means for inputting a user's instruction including a recommendation control instruction;

controlling means of controlling a content displayed on the displaying means based on an instruction input using the inputting means; and

timing detecting means of detecting notification timing with which a notification of a recommended program is performed, when the recommendation control instruction is not input,

wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to display a notification screen indicating the existence of a recommended program when the notification timing is detected by the timing detecting means.

Claim 20 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the timing detecting means detects timing with which a recommended program starts, as the notification timing.

Claim 21 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the timing detecting means detects timing with which selected stations are changed, as the notification timing.

Claim 22 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, where the notification timing detecting means detects timing with which a channel display starts, as the notification timing.

Claim 23 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 22, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the notification screen when the channel display is ended.

Claim 24 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 23, wherein the channel display starts and ends, depending on an input channel display control instruction.

Claim 25 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to display a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 26 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to display a video of a recommended program when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 27 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the notification screen when a predetermined time has elapsed while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 28 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the notification screen when an instruction other than the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed.

Claim 29 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means changes an information amount of a recommended program included in the notification screen when the recommendation control instruction is input.

Claim 30 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 29, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to display a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is not being displayed;

the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the notification screen and display the list screen when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed; and

the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the list screen and display a video of a recommended program when the recommendation control instruction is input while the list screen is being displayed.

Claim 31 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 30, wherein the notification screen is an icon which is overlaid and displayed on a program video.

Claim 32 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 29, wherein the controlling means controls the displaying means to display a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is not being displayed;

the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the notification screen and display a simple list screen having a less information amount than that of the

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list screen when the recommendation control instruction is input while the notification screen is being displayed;

the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the simple list screen and display the list screen when the recommendation control instruction is input while the simple list screen is being displayed; and

the controlling means controls the displaying means to erase the list screen and display a video of a recommended program when the recommendation control instruction is input while the list screen is being displayed.

Claim 33 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 32, wherein the notification screen is an icon which is overlaid and displayed on a program video, and

the simple list screen is a window which is overlaid and displayed on a program video.

Claim 34 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means obtains a recommendation reason for a program, and includes the obtained recommendation reason in the notification screen, wherein the obtained recommendation reason is in a form which can be recognized by a user.

Claim 35 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 34, wherein the recommendation reason is an element selected from the group consisting of frequent viewing of a program, appearance of a specific performer in a program, belonging of a program to a specific genre, and inclusion of a specific character string in a document accompanying a program.

Claim 36 (Original) The recommended program notification device according to claim 34, wherein the notification screen is an element selected from the group consisting of an icon overlaid and displayed on a program video, a window overlaid and displayed on a program video, and a list screen indicating a list of recommended programs.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended)   A computer recordable recording medium recording a program for causing a computer to execute the recommended program notification method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 18~~ <u>claim 1</u>.

Claim 39 (New)   A computer recordable recording medium recording a program for causing a computer to execute the recommended program notification method according to claim 19.